

WESTERN REGION MEETING – March 28, 2020, 10 am

Via Zoom Conference call

Moderator	J.D. Ward			
Chinatown	Laurene Chan	Norman Fong	Linda Lee	Jeanette Huie
Covenant	Maureen Chen			
Good News	Young Kim			
Grace Korean	Dong Kim			
Korean PCSF	Sunglae Cho			
Lakeside	Chris Gelini			
Mission Bay	Marcus Jung			
Noe Valley	Cindy Cake			
Old First	Bill Campbell	Erwin Barron		
Portola Valley	Robin Polastri			
St. Andrews, Pacifica	Berni Schuhmann			
Seventh Avenue	Susan Baker-Lehne			
Trinity	Mike Garoutti	Cathy Lehr		
Unknown	Valerie Davidson			

Meeting was recorded to the cloud and will be available for 90 days.

Email J.D. jdward510@gmail.com for access to the link.

First order of business was a sound check and roll call. J.D. expressed that it was an honor for the committee to read the proposals and feel the passions and learn of the missions that our congregations are involved in. He summarized the committee's process – accepted applications, reviewed and followed up with phone calls to applicants, met to recommend a funding amount. Documents were emailed to the Western Region mailing list prior to today's meeting where a vote will be taken to approve/disapprove the Committee's recommendations. The required quorum of five churches was present.

Each committee member will read the printed summaries then take questions from the floor. The vote will be taken after all the summaries are reviewed. Votes will be taken with a verbal 'yay' or 'nay'.

1. Partnership for Helping Immigrants (\$60,000)

Question: clarification of \$60,000 request – isn't \$50,000 the maximum?

Response: The guidelines stated the typical amount should be \$50,000 or less. Committee felt the amount of \$60,000 was appropriate for this project. Because of this misunderstanding the committee will revise the form and rephrase that it's a soft cap.

Question: if multiple churches are collaborating on a specific project and submit an application, does that justify a request for a higher amount?

Response: No.

Question: if the application requests multi-year funding and is approved, does that mean funding is approved for the future years?

Response: Committee determined that we're committing only for the first year because all the funds may be depleted by the end of this year. One proposal per project per year. The letter to grantees will state that the funding is a commitment for one year.

Motion made by Erwin Barron and seconded by Maureen Chen: A church may not apply for an additional grant of the same project, which was approved and received funds, within 12 months from first date of application. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Good News Center (\$23,800)

The committee approved funding for just the first year. They will need to apply again next year if project continues. Additional details were provided by Young Kim. Half of the funding for the project will be provided by Good News. The amount recommended by the Committee actually covers only 25% of the full budget. There were no questions from the floor.

3. Edible Hope (\$50,000)

Erwin added the committee decided to provide full amount of \$50,000 which is anticipated to last two years. There were no questions from the floor.

4. Ecumenical House (\$30,000)

Question: Can you share some background on new chaplain? What will the relationship be like?

Response: The Board of Directors took a leap of faith and increased the chaplain's position to full-time. The Board is governed by members who represent four denominations who hired and supervises the Chaplain. The current chaplain is an ordained Episcopal priest and has been working at Ecumenical House for two years.

Question: '400 congregations nearby' is stated in the application; is that an accurate number?

Response: Yes, within five miles of EC House in San Francisco and the Peninsula, there are 400 congregations representing the four denominations on the Board: Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalian, and Congregationalist. They are planning to outreach to these congregations, ten at a time, for additional support.

5. St. Francis Center (\$50,000)

Question: where is the housing located?

Response: Redwood City, North Fair Oaks neighborhood, near the St. Francis Center.

Bernie added that she works at a K-8 school that has received up to 30 newcomer students (either out of detention or from across the border) whose families have no resources.

Question: Timetable of events to get it completed and up and going?

Response: The close date of triplex/quadplex is April/May 2020.

Feedback: Because of the misunderstanding regarding funding, they only asked for \$50,000 but would've asked for more if they knew that was possible.

6. All Five (\$50,000)

No questions from the floor.

7. The Reason for God for College Students (\$7,000)

No questions from the floor.

8. InnerChange/ReWire Mission House (\$50,000)

No questions from the floor.

Voting:

1. YAY
2. YAY
3. YAY
4. YAY
5. YAY
6. YAY
7. YAY
8. YAY

Total amount of grants: \$320,800.

J.D. thanks the committee for the work accomplished. Correspondence with applicants will go out ASAP and funding will hopefully follow soon after. Linda suggests emailing Jeff and Earl(?) with the funding decisions.

Mike Garoutti: Seeing the breadth of activity in the Presbytery was most encouraging and the effort put into the various proposals – it's awesome to have a lot of money to give away but it's also important that we each find partners in ministry we can all help.

Linda Lee – for the churches who are collaborating on a project, what exactly did you do to bring Elders/Pastors together to collaborate?

Erwin answered and referred to projects that were started by just one church and over time got other churches interested in collaborating.

J.D. hopes Fund Your Vision will stimulate involvement of our congregations to make a difference in our community. We're happy that the Presbytery can support these projects.

Regarding the May 15th deadline date for the second round, it's still tentative. The committee currently has not received direction from Presbytery. We will assume we can move forward.

Robin reiterated that the guidelines will be revised to make the funding amount clearer.

Erwin added the Fund was approved by a vote by Presbytery so we should move forward as planned. It would take another vote by Presbytery to change.

Young Kim asked if there will be reporting requirements of the grantees. The committee will send this information to each grantee.

Award letters should also be sent via email to the applicants in case no one at the church picks up mail in a timely manner.

We agreed that the checks would go to either the church or the entity. In the award letter, committee will ask applicant (or contact person) for whom the checks be made payable.

Meeting adjourned at 11:22 am.